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INFORMATION REPORT

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1. The appointment of Heinz Hoffmann as the new chief of the HVA was published in the headquarters bulletin on 27 April. The announcement, signed by Hoffmann himself, had approximately the following contents: Minister President Grotewohl has entrusted him with the leadership of the HVA. He takes this opportunity to express appreciation to Chefinspekteur Zorn for his performance as acting Chief of the HVA. Chefinspekteur Zorn will resume his duties as head of Hauptabteilung Inspektion, relieving Chefinspekteur Wulz.\* Hoffmann expects all personnel of the HVA to cooperate in a class-conscious effort to attain the common goal of transforming the People's Police into a ready instrument equipped to defend the democratic order in the DDR.
2. Kommandeur Hoehnisich, formerly head of Referat Organisation of Hauptabteilung Stab, was replaced in that position in the middle of April by Inspekteur Mildenerger. Hoehnisich will in the future serve under Mildenerger. It is believed that Mildenerger only recently joined the HVA and that this is his first assignment. From his rank as Inspekteur the inference is drawn that he must have been an officer in the German Army of commensurate rank (Lieutenant Colonel or Colonel) and that he is in good political standing.
3. A recent addition to the Operativ Referat of Hauptabteilung Stab is Polizeirat Petri. He was transferred to the HVA from the Kirchmoeser Bereitschaft where he was in charge of a Kommando. His performance during the investigation of the capture of several members of the Kirchmoeser Bereitschaft while travelling through the U.S. Sector of Berlin attracted the attention of his superiors in the HVA and led to his transfer. He is a native Saxon, who, prior to the activation of the HVA, served as operations officer (Einsatzleiter) with the 3rd Berlin Bereitschaft in Treptow.
4. The latest official distribution key of the HVA includes Objekt Parow, which is listed as a VP school. There has as yet been no official correspondence between Hauptabteilung Stab and Hauptabteilung z.b.V. which is the controlling staff section of Objekt Parow.

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5. There have been inconclusive indications that Inspekteur Markert, besides controlling the HVA Liaison Officer system, also runs a net of informants into the various Objekte of the HVA.
6. The Bereitschaft in Pinnow is commanded by Oberpolizeirat Brueckner, who relieved Oberpolizeirat Pohlandt. The latter failed to control a near-riot which occurred shortly before Easter in protest against the arrest of an officer.
7. The Bereitschaft Kuechensee bei Starkow (5th Brandenburg) is slated to be moved to a new location not as yet determined.
8. Newspaper reports to the effect that HVA personnel are being trained in street combat in preparation for emergencies during the FDJ Whitsuntide Rally are unfounded. It is true that personnel are being trained in street fighting, but as part of their regularly scheduled tactical training program. As part of the third training phase, street fighting is practiced in platoon formation. The tactical objective is the ousting of a hostile force occupying part of a street or a street block. In the preceding phase of this type of training, personnel had been instructed individually in house fighting.
9. After the Easter furlough, 36 men failed to report back for duty, twice as many as the number that deserted after the Christmas furlough. It has not been determined as yet how many actually deserted this time, and how many just overstayed their leave.
10. On 29 April, Oberpolizeirat Kunisch, chief of the 2nd Bereitschaft of Leipzig, reported to the HVA by phone that several members of his command had received through the open mails leaflets purporting to originate with a "Freiheitsarmee", urging the People's Police not to permit themselves to be abused any longer by the Sovietniks and to join the Freiheitsarmee in its fight for a free Germany.

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\*   Comments:   which gives Chief Inspector Weiss rather than Wrlz as acting head of Hauptabteilung Inspection during Zorn's period of duty as acting chief of the HVA.

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